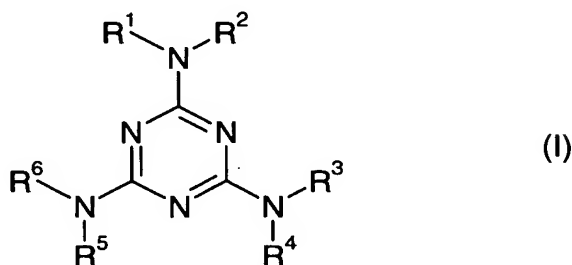


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We claim:-

- 5 1. Recording fluids containing random polyurethane copolymers and one or more melamine derivatives as crosslinkers.
2. Recording fluids as claimed in claim 1 which are inks.
- 10 3. Recording fluids as claimed in claim 2 which are inks for the ink jet process.
4. Recording fluids as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, containing one or more melamine derivatives of the general formula (I)



15 where:

20  $R^1$  to  $R^6$  are the same or different and are each selected from hydrogen,  $(CH_2O)_z-R^7$ ,  $CH_2-OR^7$ ,  $CH(OR^7)_2$  and  $CH_2-N(R^7)_2$

where  $z$  is from 1 to 10 and each  $R^7$  is the same or different and is selected from

hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ -alkyl, branched or unbranched;

25 alkoxyalkylene, such as  $(-CH_2-CH_2-O)_m-H$ ,  $(-CHCH_3-CH_2-O)_m-H$ ,  $(-CH_2-CHCH_3-O)_m-H$ ,  $(-CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-O)_m-H$ , where  $m$  is an integer from 1 to 20.

- 30 5. Recording fluids as claimed in claim 4, wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are each hydrogen in the formula (I).

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6. Recording fluids as claimed in claim 4 or 5, wherein  $R^3$  is  $CH_2OH$  in the formula (I).
7. Dispersing binders obtainable by mixing random polyurethane copolymers and one or more melamine derivatives.
- 5 8. A process for preparing recording fluids as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6, which comprises intimately mixing random polyurethane copolymers with water, optionally one or more organic solvents, one or more finely divided inorganic or organic colorants, one or more melamine derivatives and optionally assistants.
- 10 9. Colorant preparations comprising dispersing binders as claimed in claim 7, water, optionally one or more organic solvents and a finely divided inorganic or organic colorant.
- 15 10. A process for preparing colorant preparations as claimed in claim 9, which comprises mixing together dispersing binders as claimed in claim 7, water, optionally one or more organic solvents and a finely divided inorganic or organic colorant.
- 20 11. A process for preparing recording fluids, which comprises intimately mixing dispersing binders as claimed in claim 7 with water, optionally one or more organic solvents and one or more finely divided inorganic or organic colorants and optionally assistants or diluting colorant preparations as claimed in claim 9 with water.
- 25 12. The method for printing sheetlike or three-dimensional substrates by the ink jet process using recording fluids as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6.
13. Printed sheetlike and three-dimensional substrates obtainable by the method of claim